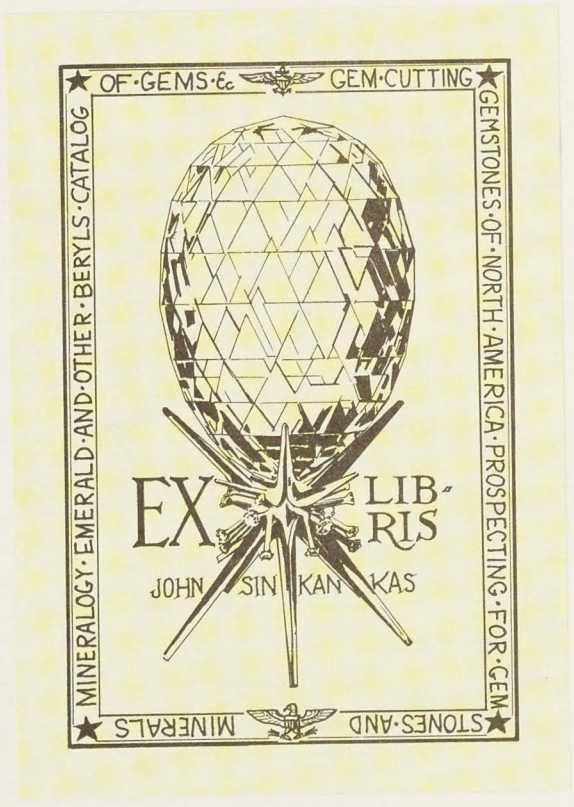
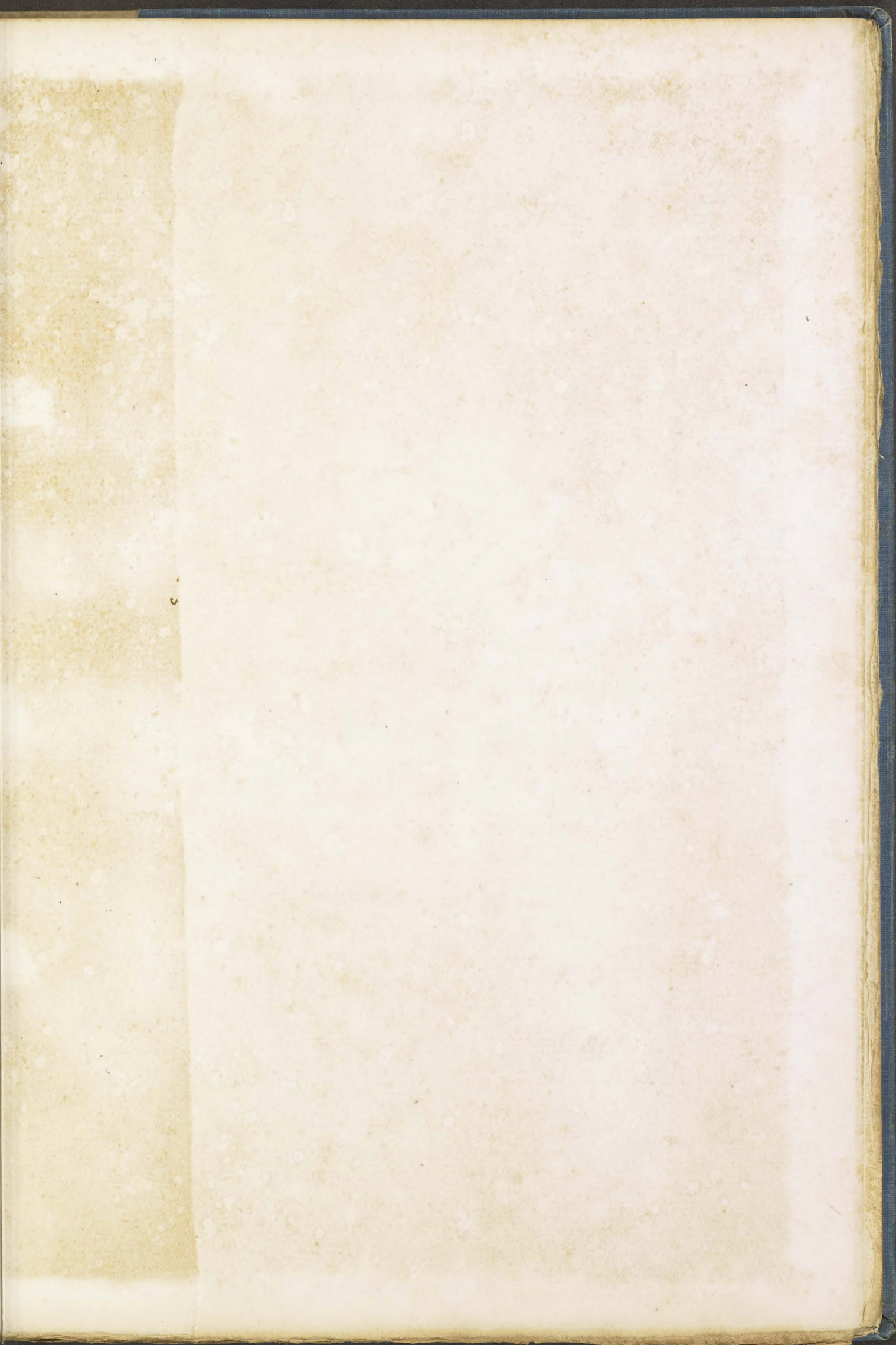
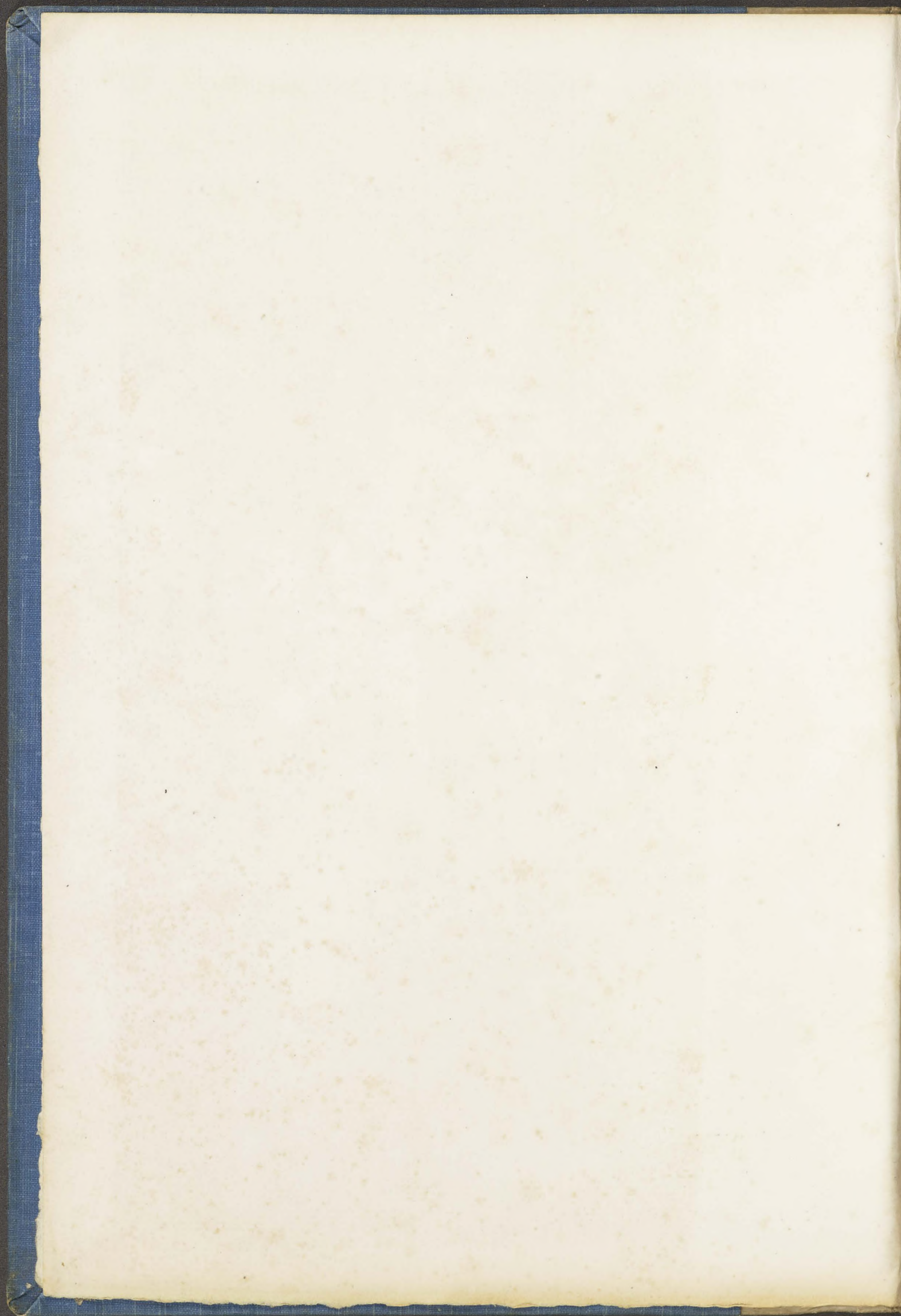
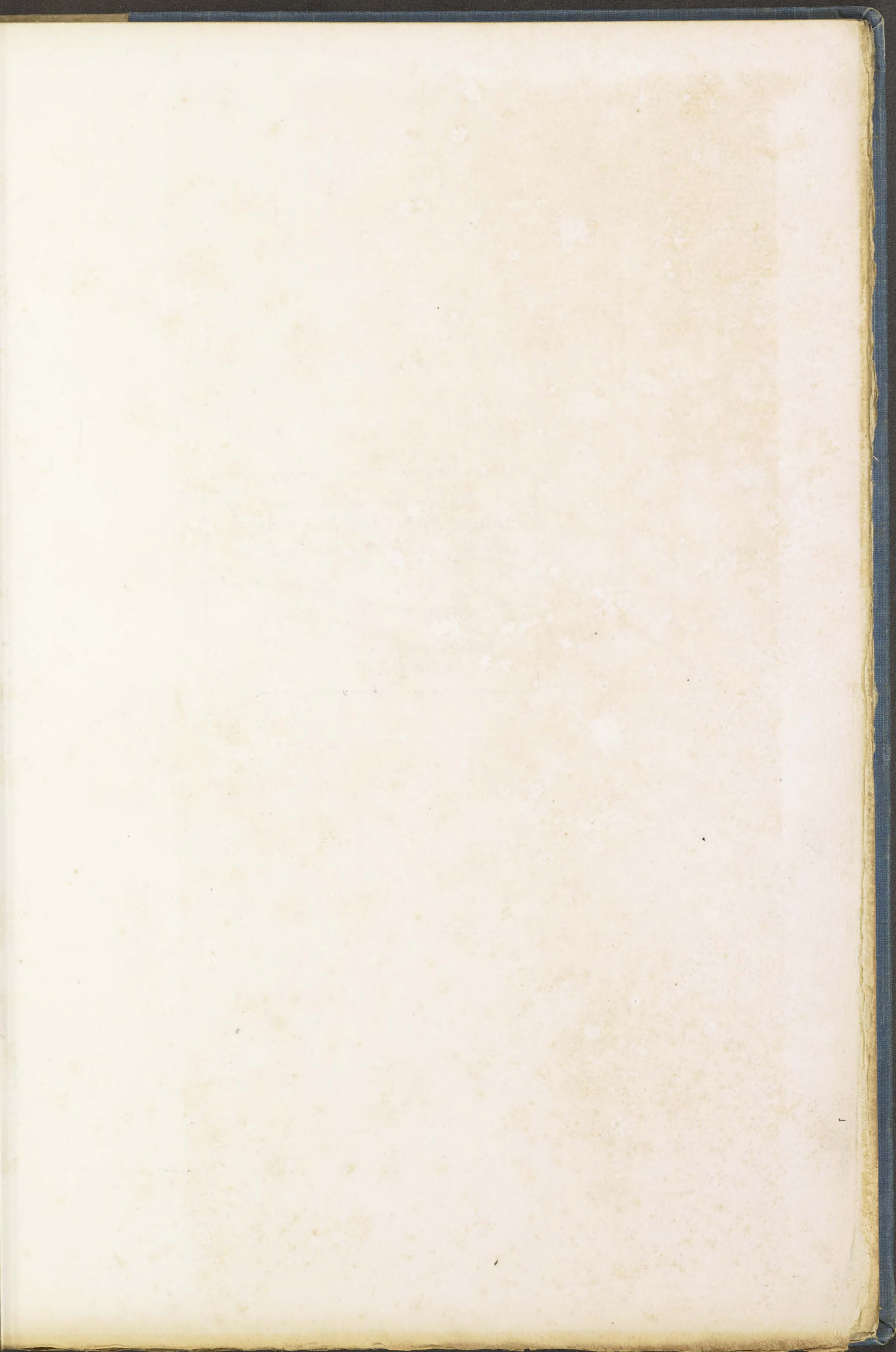


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*Thirty-six copies only of
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J. A. Harman Oates

*Lancaster House,
St. James', S.W.*

FINGER RINGS

CATALOGUE

FINGER RINGS

Finger Rings

CATALOGUE
OF
FINGER RINGS

BROUGHT TOGETHER BY

F. A. HARMAN OATES, F.S.A.

PRIVATELY PRINTED

1917

CATALOGUE

FINGER RINGS

DESIGNED BY

R. A. HARMAN, OATTS, K.S.A.

NEW YORK

INTRODUCTION.

IT is extremely difficult, more particularly with a small collection such as this, to classify logically the Finger Rings therein described, as they cover so wide a range of centuries; moreover, a single ring may be emblematic of several distinct classes; so they are simply described, as nearly as possible, chronologically, without division, into classes, except, perhaps, in one or two special examples (*see* Plate II.)

Material: Rings of gold, silver and bronze are shown, also iron, lead, laton and one from the solid stone (carnelian). There is no ivory ring in this series.

It may be of some interest to state the various parts of a ring. The circle of metal or material which surrounds the finger is called the **Shank** or **Hoop**. The setting with stone is known usually as the bezel (French: *chaton*), actually the basil edge, which retains the stone or jewel in its cavity; it also generally means the salient or chief part of the ring; thus the part of the signet engraved with its device is called its bezel, though in that case there is usually no cavity or stone; the word is also used when there is no gem.

The parts of the hoop approaching the bezel on each side of the same, are denominated the **Shoulders**.

Most of the stones used in Classic times were also used in the Mediæval period, the chief were the sapphire, ruby, garnet, emerald, diamond, amethyst, carnelian, topaz, peridot, rock crystal, and moss agate.

The gems as a rule, during the Middle Ages, were cut "En Cabochon" (*i.e.*, the stone was evenly rounded and then polished).

Elaborate facetting did not become general until late in the sixteenth century, simple facetting, into pyramidal and other forms (*vide* writing rings) appear much earlier, certainly as early as late fourteenth century (*see* example, Plate II.)

INTRODUCTION

The first part of the book is devoted to a general survey of the history of the subject. It begins with a brief account of the early attempts to explain the phenomena of life, and then proceeds to a more detailed consideration of the various theories which have been advanced from time to time. The author's object is to show how far we have advanced in our knowledge of the subject, and to point out the difficulties which still remain to be solved.

The second part of the book is devoted to a consideration of the various theories which have been advanced from time to time. It begins with a brief account of the early attempts to explain the phenomena of life, and then proceeds to a more detailed consideration of the various theories which have been advanced from time to time.

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From a very early period the surface of hoop, shoulders and bezel have been found enriched with niello or enamel, the former is frequently found on rings (Byzantine, *see* example, Plate II.)

The Iconographic rings, with figures of saints, are usually elaborately enamelled in colours, these mostly date from the fifteenth century (*see* example, Plate II.)

The custom of wearing Finger Rings has been continuous, a ring was commonly worn on the thumb to the first quarter of the sixteenth century. The first finger usually carried the signet. Wearing rings on the upper joints was not uncommon.

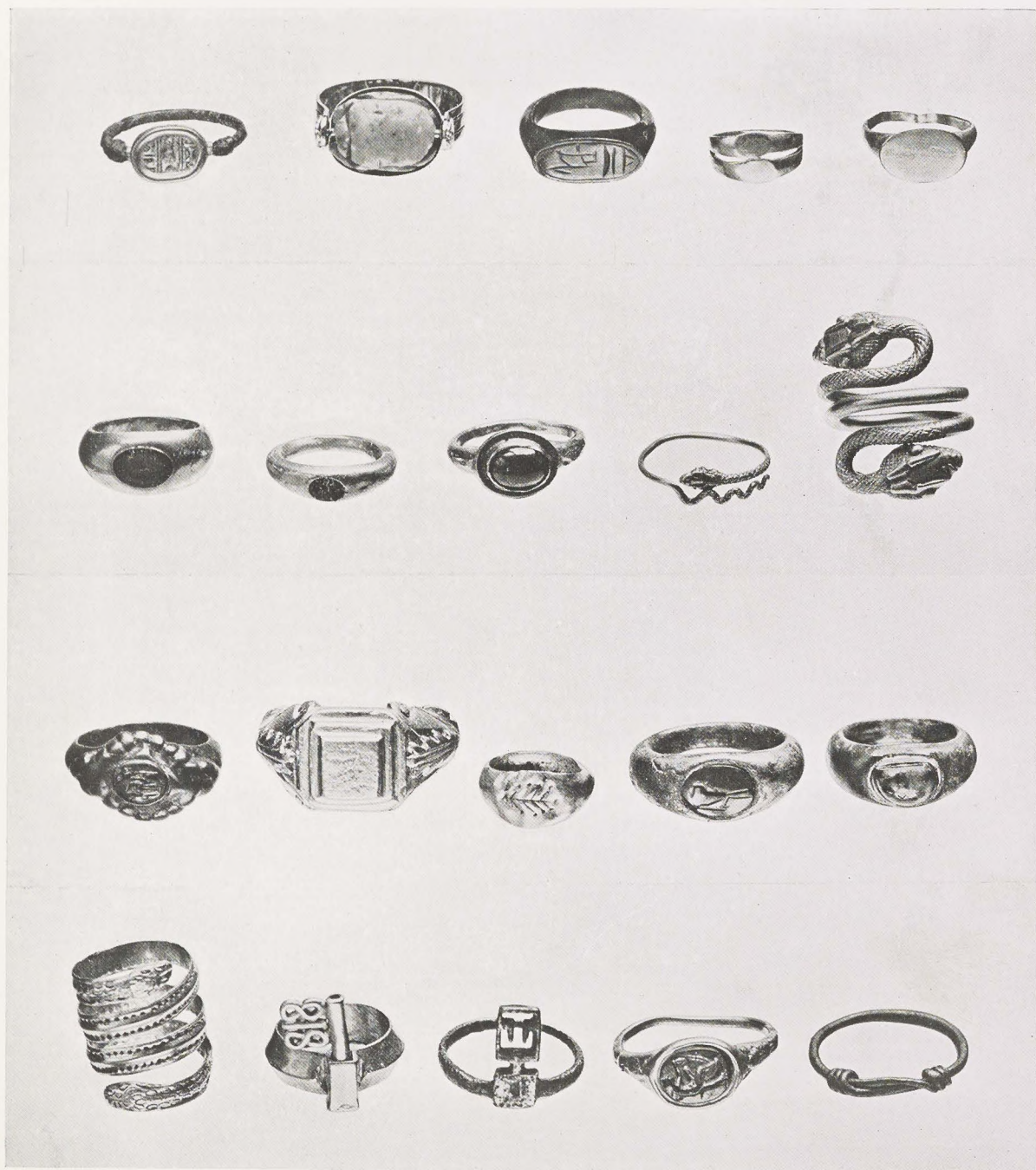
Rings were worn over gloves by Ecclesiastics, and also by distinguished laymen—as can be seen in the various paintings and drawings of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

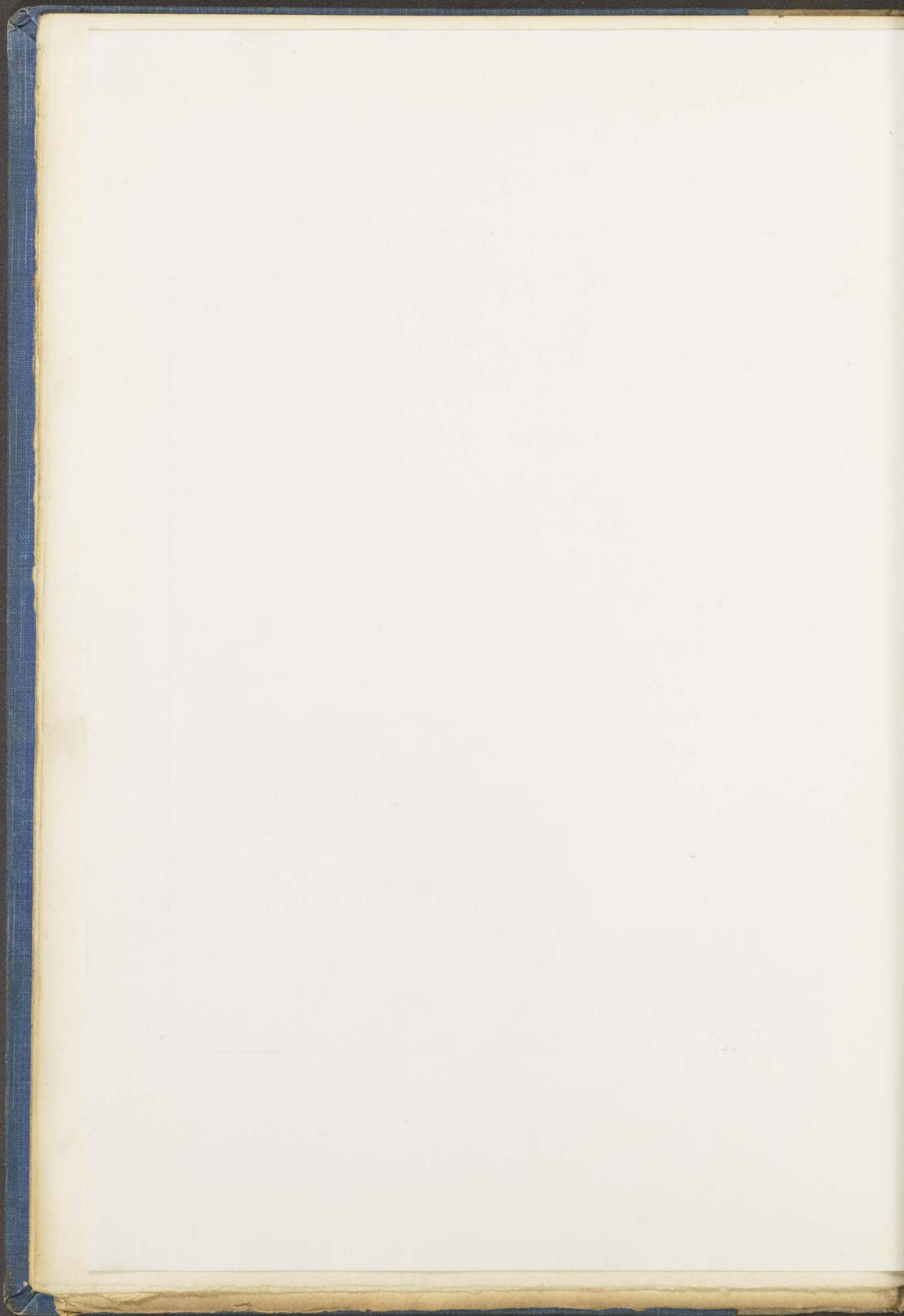
This series of rings has been formed by the writer during the last six years. It contains rings of the Egyptian, Greek, Græco Roman, Roman, later Roman, early Christian, Byzantine and Anglo Saxon periods, and contains also examples of the Norman and Angevin periods. There are rings of the thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, together with a few nineteenth century pieces; forming altogether a small, but comprehensive collection.

F. A. H. O.

October 1917.

PLATE I.





Catalogue of Finger Rings

Egyptian, B.C. 1000.

Faience Scarab, engraved with figures of Egyptian Gods, set in gold on a swivel, with a hoop of bronze. *Plate I.*

Faience Scarab of peacock-blue, engraved with figures of deities, Isis and Anubis, set in swivel of gold with rosettes on shoulders, shank and setting modern. Scarabeus ancient Egyptian. *Plate I.*

Ring of solid stone (carnelian), the bezel a long oval engraved with Egyptian hieroglyphics. Romano Egyptian. *Plate I.*

Greco-Roman, First to Second Century, A.D.

Ring composed of two separate hoops, joined together below and branching out above, each has a flattened oval bezel perfectly plain, pure gold. This ring was intended for top joint of a girl's finger. It was brought from Crete in 1897. *Plate I.*

Gold Ring, with raised bezel; bezel, hoop and shoulders perfectly plain. *Plate I.*

Gold Ring, with plain oval bezel, shoulders and hoop also undecorated. *Plate I.*

Massive Gold Ring, the bezel set with an engraved sard (a mule feeding). This ring was found at Herculaneum in 1832, and presented by Prince Charles of Bourbon to Lady Sydney in 1834. Purchased from the Sydney Collection in 1915 [Frognal Sale]. *Plate I.*

Catalogue of Printed Books

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Gold Ring (hollow), set with cabochon carbuncle. Found in a coffin at Constantinople in 1905. *Plate I.*

Finger Ring, in the form of a serpent coiled in two spirals; on the outside the scales are represented by means of crossed hatched lines. Purchased from the Whitehead Collection [Christie's] 1915. *Plate I.*

Massive Gold Ring, the hoop is in two coils, representing the bodies of two serpents, whose heads are turned backwards in opposite directions; the scales are represented by crossed hatched lines. Purchased from the Whitehead Collection [Christie's] 1915. *Plate I.*

Finger Ring, in the form of a serpent coiled in spiral, head thrust out on one side and tail projects on the other; the scales are indicated by incised circles. This ring, like the two previously described, was purchased from the Whitehead Collection [Christie's] 1915. *Plate I.*

Later Roman, Third to Fifth Century.

Massive Gold Ring, the bezel raised and holding therein a gold key. Purchased from the Whitehead Collection [Christie's] 1915. *Plate I.*

Steel Ring with square bezel, in which is placed a steel key. Found at Grays, Essex, in 1906. *Plate I.*

Massive Gold Ring, bezel inset with an engraved carnelian representing a female figure feeding a fish. This is a fine example of its period (3rd century), said to have been found at Verulam (St Albans). *Plate I.*

Bronze Ring of twisted wire, no provenance. *Plate I.*

Bronze Ring, inset with an antique engraved matrix of emerald, bearing a figure of an Egyptian Goddess; the setting is probably 15th century, the gem Egyptian. *Plate I.*

Circa Caracalla.

Massive Gold Ring, hoop of elliptical form; the large shoulders are decorated with acanthus leaves in high relief; the bezel is square and consists of a raised plate set within a wall of gold, weight 2 ounces. Found in Italy (3rd century, Roman), a fine example. *Plate I.*

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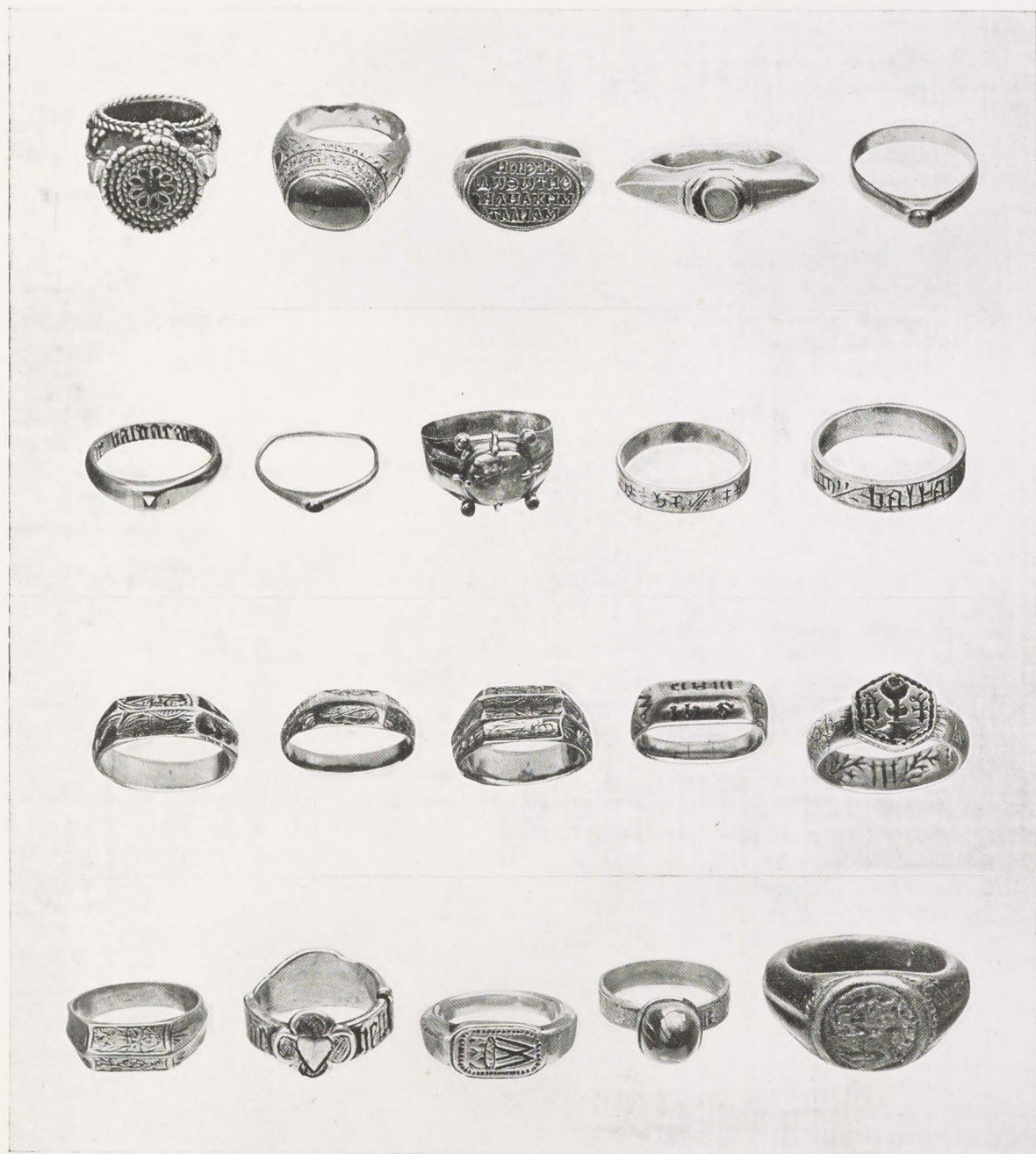
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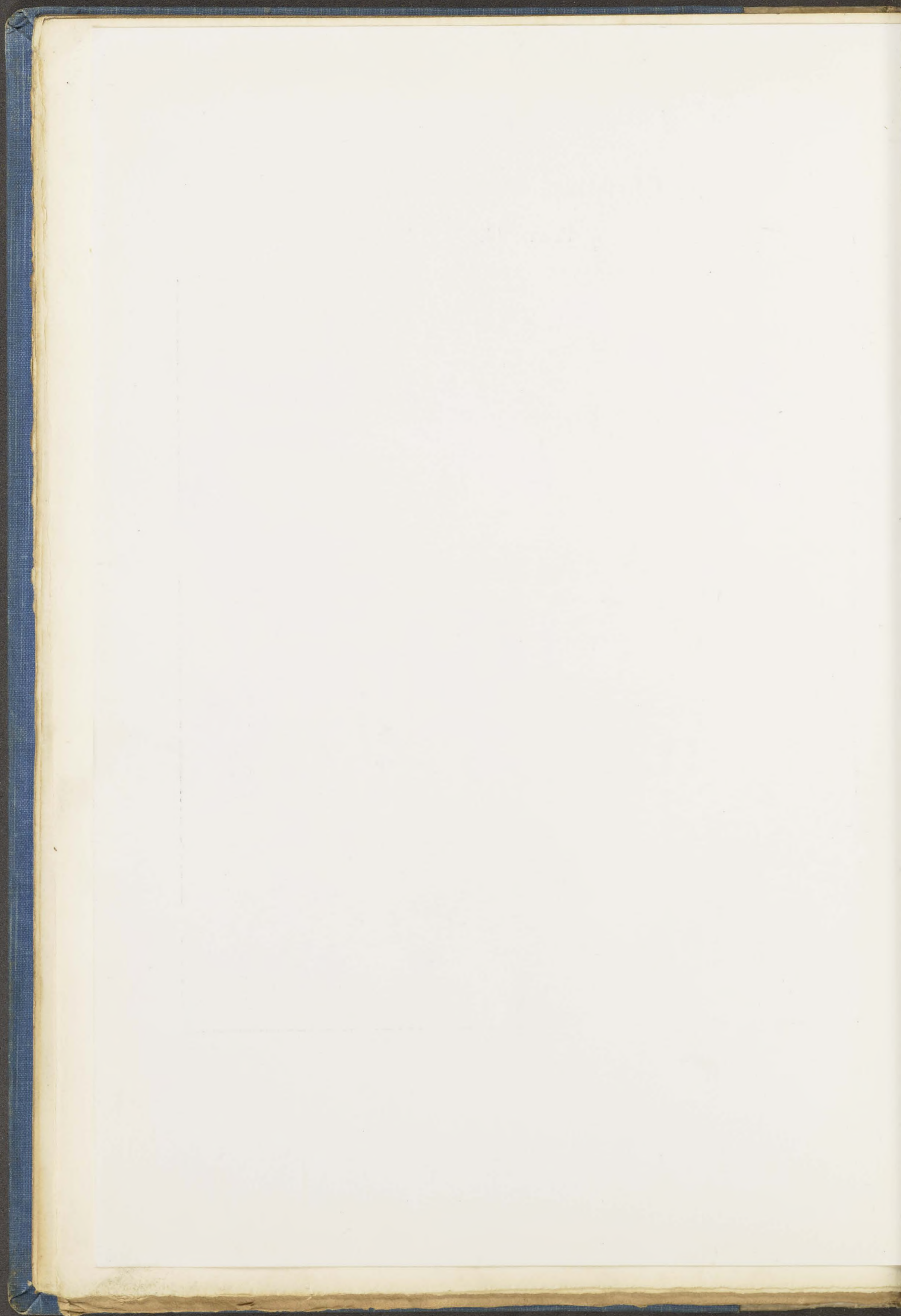
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PLATE II.





Early Christian, Fourth Century, A.D.

Small Gold upper joint Finger Ring, engraved with palm branch. Found in a cemetery at Antioch in 1906. *Plate I.*

Massive Silver Ring, inset with a carnelian, upon which is engraved a dove holding an olive branch. Found in the Thames near Windsor. Roman, 4th century, *circa* Constantine I. *Plate I.*

Massive Silver Ring, the bezel inset with a cabochon amethyst. Found in the Thames near Windsor. Roman, 4th century, *circa* Constantine II. *Plate I.*

Anglo-Saxon, Eighth and Ninth Centuries.

Massive Silver Ring, high bezel, with pearl decoration, geometrical design. Found at Rathgar, Ireland. Given by Lord Londesborough to Sir Francis Laking, Bt., and presented to the present owner by Sir Guy Francis Laking, Bt., C.B., M.V.O. *Plate II.*

Byzantine, 900-1000, A.D.

Gold Ring, very high bezel, ornamented with design forming a pattern of delicate tracery; bezel inset with cabochon carbuncle. Probably the property of a high ecclesiastic. From Constantinople in 1911. *Plate II.*

Tenth and Eleventh Centuries.

Massive Gold Ring, inlaid with silver; the bezel oval, with a vertical ridge at the top and bottom, the outer sides of hoop engraved with floral scrolls inlaid with silver, and the bezel is engraved with a legend, a mixture of Greek and Latin. On each shoulder is a monogram. This ring undoubtedly at one time was the property of the Emperor Michael III. (Balbus), A.D. 1024. The translation of the Greco-Latin inscription on the bezel is, "O Lord help thy Servant, Mechael (Michael), the Emperor ordered me to be made"; on the shoulders, "May the Mother of God help me." A very fine Byzantine example. From excavation at Constantinople in 1911. *Plate II.*

Eleventh Century.

Massive Silver Ring, set with an onyx in copper bands; the ring is angular and very gothic in character. No inscription. Found at Sudbury, Suffolk, in 1900. *Plate II.*

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Ornamental Rings, 1000-1450, A.D.

Gold, hoop, with high hexagonal bezel, holding a cabochon sapphire. Found in 1850 in the "Battle" field at Ardleigh, Essex; 13th century. A fine example of a so called "Stirrup" ring. Purchased from Mrs. Fenn of Ardleigh. *Plate II.*

Gold, slender hoop, with high rectangular bezel, containing a sapphire cabochon; 13th century. Purchased and stated to have been dug up at Canterbury. An ordinary example of a "Stirrup" ring of this period. *Plate II.*

Fourteenth Century.

Gold, plain hoop, stirrup form, with high rectangular bezel, in which is inset a pyramidal diamond. Inside the shank is inscribed the names of the three kings of Cologne, "Guaspar, Baldasar, Melchior." A fine example of a ring used for writing on glass, rare. *Plate II.*

Fourteenth or Fifteenth Century.

Gold Ring, the bezel with four claws forming a raised cross, holds a pale cabochon sapphire; at the four corners also are four cup-like boxes, each holding a small ruby; English, late 14th or early 15th century; probably the ring of a high ecclesiastic. Found at Epsom, Surrey. From Sir Guy Francis Laking's Collection, given to me 4 March 1916. This ring is similar to that of the Episcopal Ring in Chichester Cathedral. *Plate II.*

Amulet Rings, Fifteenth Century.

Silver, once gilt and enamelled. Inscribed on outer side of plain hoop, + Jaspar Melchior Baldasar, a cross pattée with floreated design. Found in a well at Woodbridge, Suffolk. Early 15th century. From John Shewell Corder's Collection, Ipswich. *Plate II.*

Silver, very massive applied bezel, high and deeply cut with a chalice and wafer, also the letters F. O.; on the shoulders tau (T) and a double rose. Inside the shank is a cross patonce and "Atta: Maria." (Father-Mary). Unearthed at Stonham Aspal, Suffolk, in 1904. From John Shewell Corder's Collection, 1911. Late 15th century, English work. A rare piece. *Plate II.*

Ornamental Paper 1800-1850 A.D.

One of the most important facts about the history of paper is that it is a product of the "art" of the "hand" and not of the "machine". The history of paper is the history of the "hand" and not of the "machine". The history of paper is the history of the "hand" and not of the "machine".

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Ornamental Paper 1850-1900 A.D.

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Ornamental Paper 1900-1950 A.D.

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Ornamental Paper 1950-1980 A.D.

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Flat silver hoop, upon which is inscribed IHC: ATTA: MARIA:
(Jesus, Father, Mary). English, 15th century. Found on the
site of the Grey Friars Monastery at Cardiff in 1830. *Plate II.*

Iconographic Devotional Rings, Fifteenth Century.

Silver, once gilt, ridged bezel, early form, engraved IHS: and
Maria; on the shoulders respectively an I and M; the shank
decorated in low relief with lozenged-shaped ornamentation.
Early 15th century, French. This ring is believed to have
been the property of Joan of Arc, and came through Cardinal
Beaufort to Henry VII. It is curiously square in shape.
From Augustus John's Collection, 1914. *Plate II.*

Gold, massive Ring, wreathed hoop, pearled and ridged; the
shoulders enamelled (formerly in green and white) and
engraved with flowers; bezel, with three concave panels engraved
respectively with the Trinity, Virgin and Christ, and St. John
the Baptist. Inside the hoop, in dark blue enamel, is inscribed:
"Joie Sans Fin" (Joy without end). Dug up at Faversham,
Kent, in 1902. *Plate II.*

Gold, the shoulder decorated with sprays of flowers, once enamelled
in colours and legend incised, "En bon an" (A good year to
you); ridged bezel with two concave panels, on one is St.
George, and the other St. Barbara. English, 15th century.
Found at Lewes, Sussex. *Plate II.*

Silver, once gilt and enamelled, shoulders deeply engraved with
flowers; ridged bezel with two concave panels, on one of which
is St. Sebastian with arrow, and the other is St. Barbara
wearing wimple and holding the Tower. Found at St. Albans.
Purchased 1900. *Plate II.*

Silver, once gilt, the shoulders decorated with flowers, formerly
enamelled; the bezel is divided into two concave panels, on
one of which is represented a female saint carrying scales, the
other panel is richly decorated with roses and lilies. English,
15th century. Found at Coventry. Purchased July 1905.
Plate II.

Silver, once gilt, double bezelled; one applied, a heart within
treasure of arches, the other, clasped hands with cuffs, each of
which has a row of buttons. On the shoulders is the legend,
IHC help (Jesus help). A fine ring found in Kent. *Plate II.*

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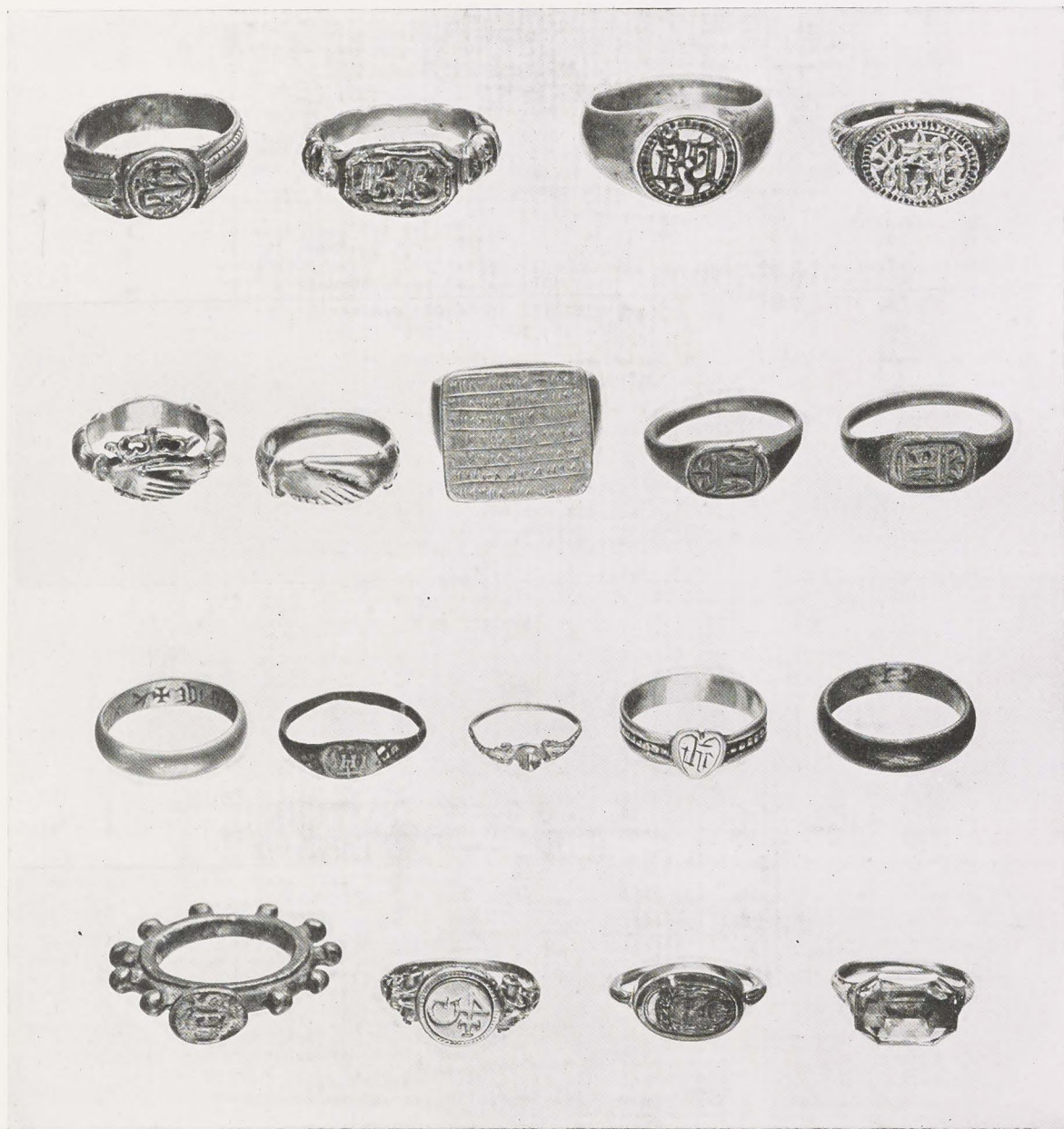
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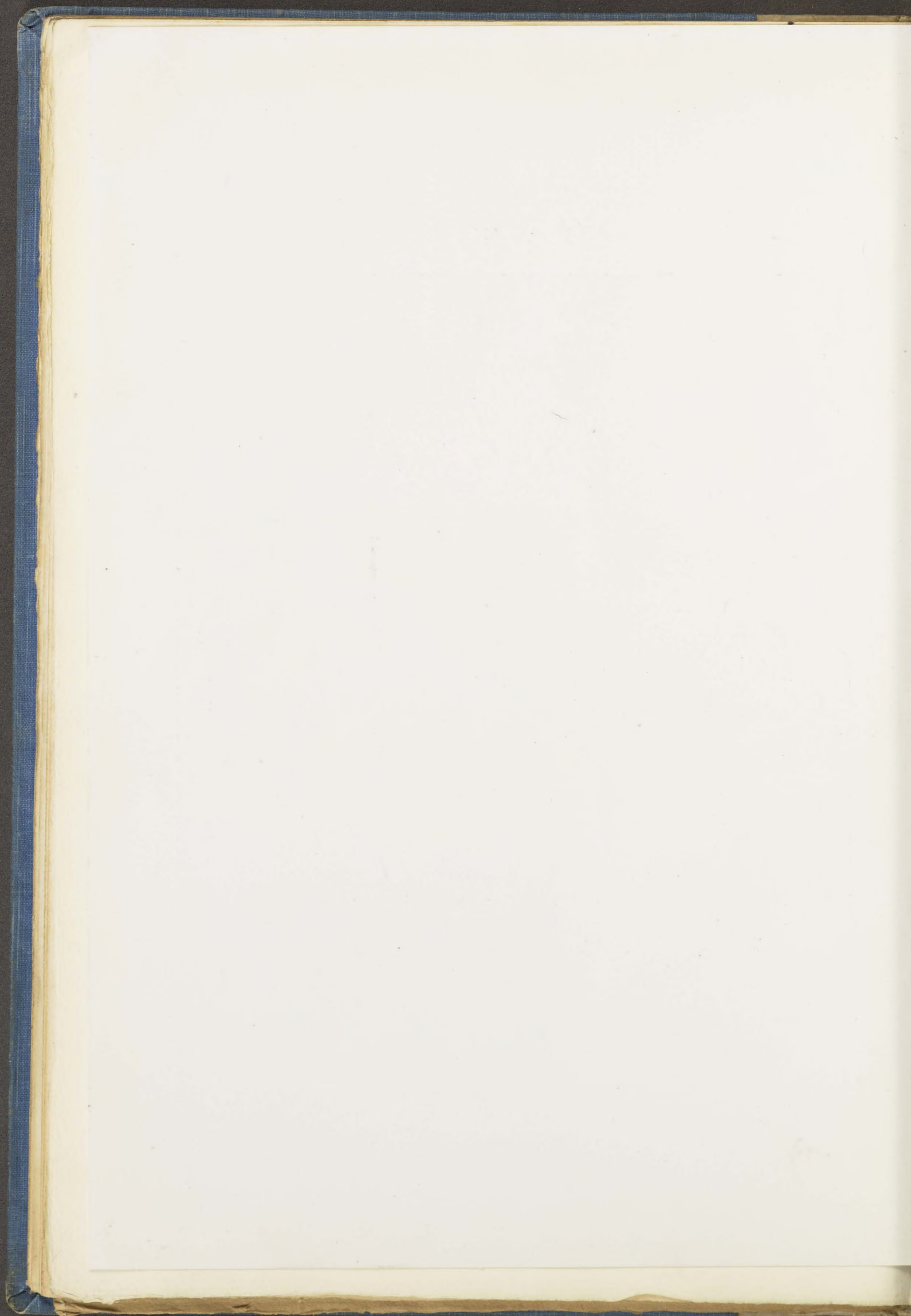
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modern thought.

PLATE III.





Silver, once gilt, hoop with medium ridge, no inscription; shank repaired at back; bezel, clasped hands in front. 15th century "fede" ring. Said to have been found at Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight. *Plate III.*

Massive bronze, once gilt, the shoulders and shank enamelled, the former pearled; on the bezel, which is circular and surrounded by a border of pearls, is cut a representation of Adam and Eve, the Serpent, and Tree of Life. English, 15th century. Found at Nottingham. From Sir Guy Francis Laking's Collection. *Plate II.*

Silver, once gilt, massive shank, enamelled and pearled; bezel circular, deeply cut with device of merchant. Found at Nottingham in 1912, late 15th century. From Sir Guy Francis Laking's Collection. *Plate III.*

Silver, rounded massive shank and shoulders; circular bezel with border of pearls, on which is deeply cut a merchant's device. Late 15th century work. Found at Mansfield in 1900. From Sir Guy Francis Laking's Collection. *Plate III.*

Bronze, gilt, massive ribbed shoulders with rectangular bezel engraved BB within a border of dots. English, late 15th century. Found at Nottingham in 1911. From Sir Guy Francis Laking's Collection. *Plate III.*

Laton, once gilt, applied bezel, in which is set a cabochon amethyst; the shank is decorated with roses, and is inscribed on outer side, "par grant amour." Found on the site of Greyfriars Monastery, Cardiff, in 1827. *Plate II.*

Silver, once gilt, plain shank, no shoulders or bezel; engraved within, + Jeseus Nasaren Rex Judeorum. English, 15th century. *Plate III.*

Bronze, once gilt, plain rounded hoop, no bezel or shoulders, engraved rudely within, + Ave MARIA. 15th century. *Plate III.*

Bronze, plain hoop, oblong bezel, engraved with R crowned within a border of dots. 15th century merchant's ring. *Plate III.*

Bronze, beautiful patina, octagonal bezel, on which is engraved a merchant's mark, surrounded by a decorative border. Found at Windsor. 15th century. *Plate IV.*

There are two main points to be considered in this connection. First, the fact that the law is not a mere collection of rules, but a system of principles which guide the action of the courts. Second, the fact that the law is not a mere collection of rules, but a system of principles which guide the action of the courts.

It is true that the law is not a mere collection of rules, but a system of principles which guide the action of the courts. It is true that the law is not a mere collection of rules, but a system of principles which guide the action of the courts.

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Steel, formerly gilt, with monogram on bezel, set in border of pearls.

In this case the gold is inset or damascened into the metal, not merely water gilt. English 15th century. Found at Woldingham, Surrey, in 1899. *Plate III.*

Bronze, oblong bezel with I crowned. English, late 15th century merchant's ring. *Plate III.*

Laton, once gilt, hoop and shoulders decorated with lozenged ornamentation; bezel oblong and flat, engraved with cross and holy monogram. 15th century. Found at Derby in 1911. *Plate III.*

Silver, plain hoop, shoulders a crowned W within a border of dots upon an oblong bezel. English, 15th century. From Sir Guy Francis Laking's Collection. *Plate II.*

Silver, the hoop enamelled and decorated with a row of pellets; applied heart-shaped bezel, engraved with sacred monogram of our Lord. English, first quarter of the 16th century. Found at Cambridge. *Plate III.*

Bronze, once gilt, massive shank, on the back of which is a pointed oval in relief; flat shield-like shoulders; square bezel engraved with Kufic characters. 15th century. From Constantinople. Acquired from the Collection of A. F. Henderson, F.S.A. *Plate III.*

Leaden, decade Ring, ten projections, with projecting oval bezel, engraved with I.H.S. Found at Portchester, Hampshire, in 1857. From Collection of Ambrose Parr. *Plate III.*

Gold, slender shank, shoulders decorated, the bezel high and formed as head of a knight in armour. Found at Windsor in 1900. A very rare example of early 15th century ornamental ring. Given to the present owner by Sir Guy Francis Laking, Bt., from the Laking Collection, *Plate III.*

Gold, massive ring, with richly decorated shoulders, plain shank, the bezel circular, set in a swivel, on the outside of the frame of which is inscribed, "Nosse te ipsum"; on the inner side in white enamel is a skull, on the outer a merchant's mark G, a cross and sign of 4, *circa* 1550. Found at Guildford, Surrey, in 1897. *Plate III.*

Moss agate, with intaglio head of Christ beautifully carved, Italian, 15th century. On the back is I.H.S. and the nails of the cross, 16th century work. The setting is modern. Given to the writer by G. F. Lawrence, Esq. *Plate III.*

And to the first of these we must refer, as to the first of them, it is the fact that the world is not a uniform whole, but a collection of parts, each of which has its own life and its own history.

And to the second of these we must refer, as to the second of them, it is the fact that the world is not a static whole, but a dynamic whole, in which everything is in a state of constant change.

And to the third of these we must refer, as to the third of them, it is the fact that the world is not a simple whole, but a complex whole, in which every part is connected with every other part.

And to the fourth of these we must refer, as to the fourth of them, it is the fact that the world is not a uniform whole, but a varied whole, in which every part has its own character and its own value.

And to the fifth of these we must refer, as to the fifth of them, it is the fact that the world is not a simple whole, but a complex whole, in which every part is connected with every other part.

And to the sixth of these we must refer, as to the sixth of them, it is the fact that the world is not a uniform whole, but a varied whole, in which every part has its own character and its own value.

And to the seventh of these we must refer, as to the seventh of them, it is the fact that the world is not a simple whole, but a complex whole, in which every part is connected with every other part.

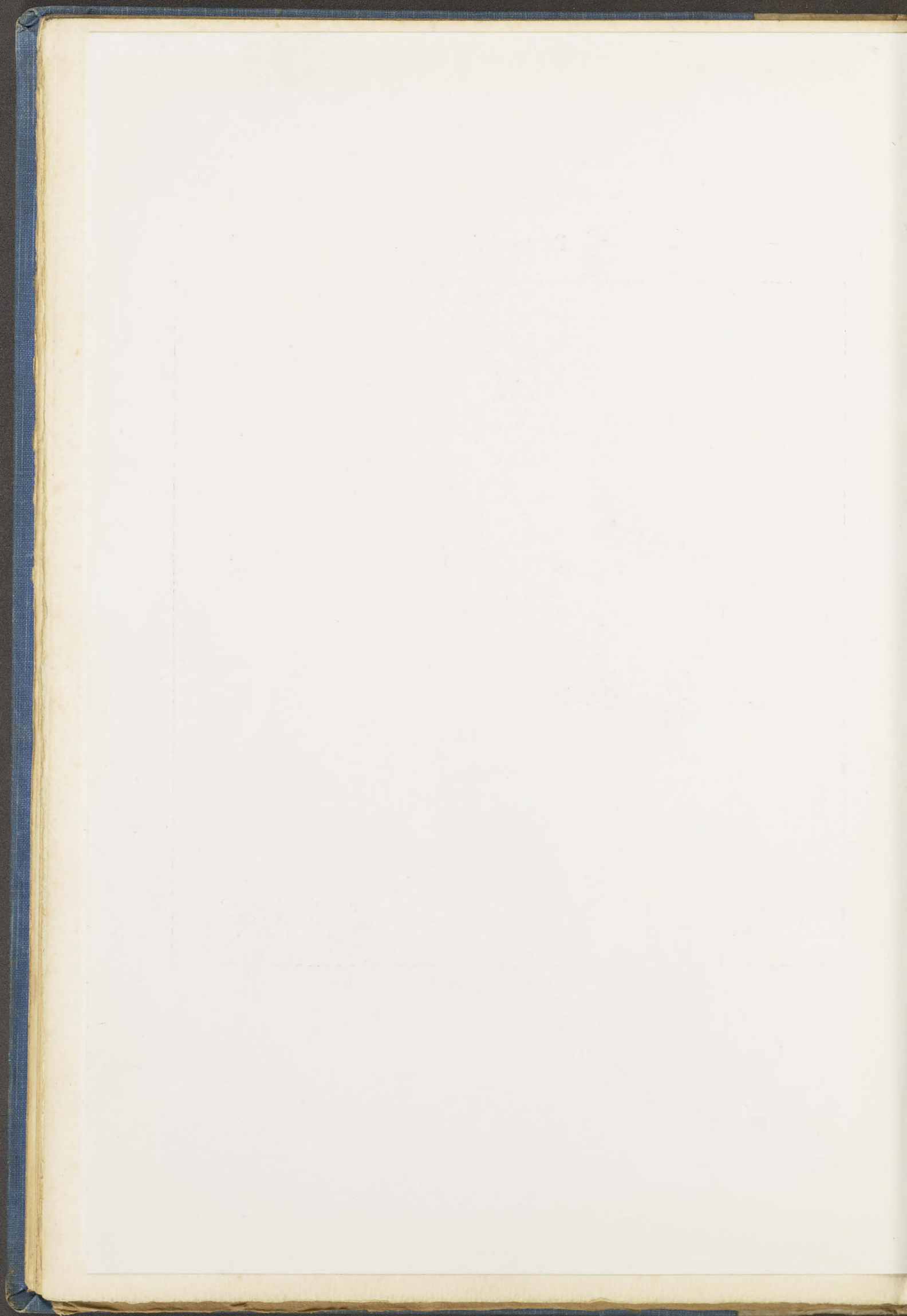
And to the eighth of these we must refer, as to the eighth of them, it is the fact that the world is not a uniform whole, but a varied whole, in which every part has its own character and its own value.

And to the ninth of these we must refer, as to the ninth of them, it is the fact that the world is not a simple whole, but a complex whole, in which every part is connected with every other part.

And to the tenth of these we must refer, as to the tenth of them, it is the fact that the world is not a uniform whole, but a varied whole, in which every part has its own character and its own value.

PLATE IV.





Gold and enamel, set with a white sapphire beautifully faceted. English, *circa* 1560. Purchased at Nottingham [A. G. Wheeler's Collection]. *Plate III.*

Gold and enamel, set with table emerald. Acquired from Nottingham. English, *circa* 1560. *Plate IV.*

Gold and enamel, set with seven garnets. English, late 16th century work. Purchased at Nottingham. *Plate IV.*

Massive Gold Ring, the hoop elaborately worked, shoulders also richly decorated, and each set with a sapphire in circular box setting; the bezel circular, set with ten rubies, and in the centre a white sapphire. Venetian, 16th century work. *Plate IV.*

Gold Signet Ring, with the arms and crest of Janson. English, *circa* 1580. Found at Guildford. Exhibited at Burlington Fine Arts Club in 1916, No. 26 in their catalogue of that year. *Plate IV.*

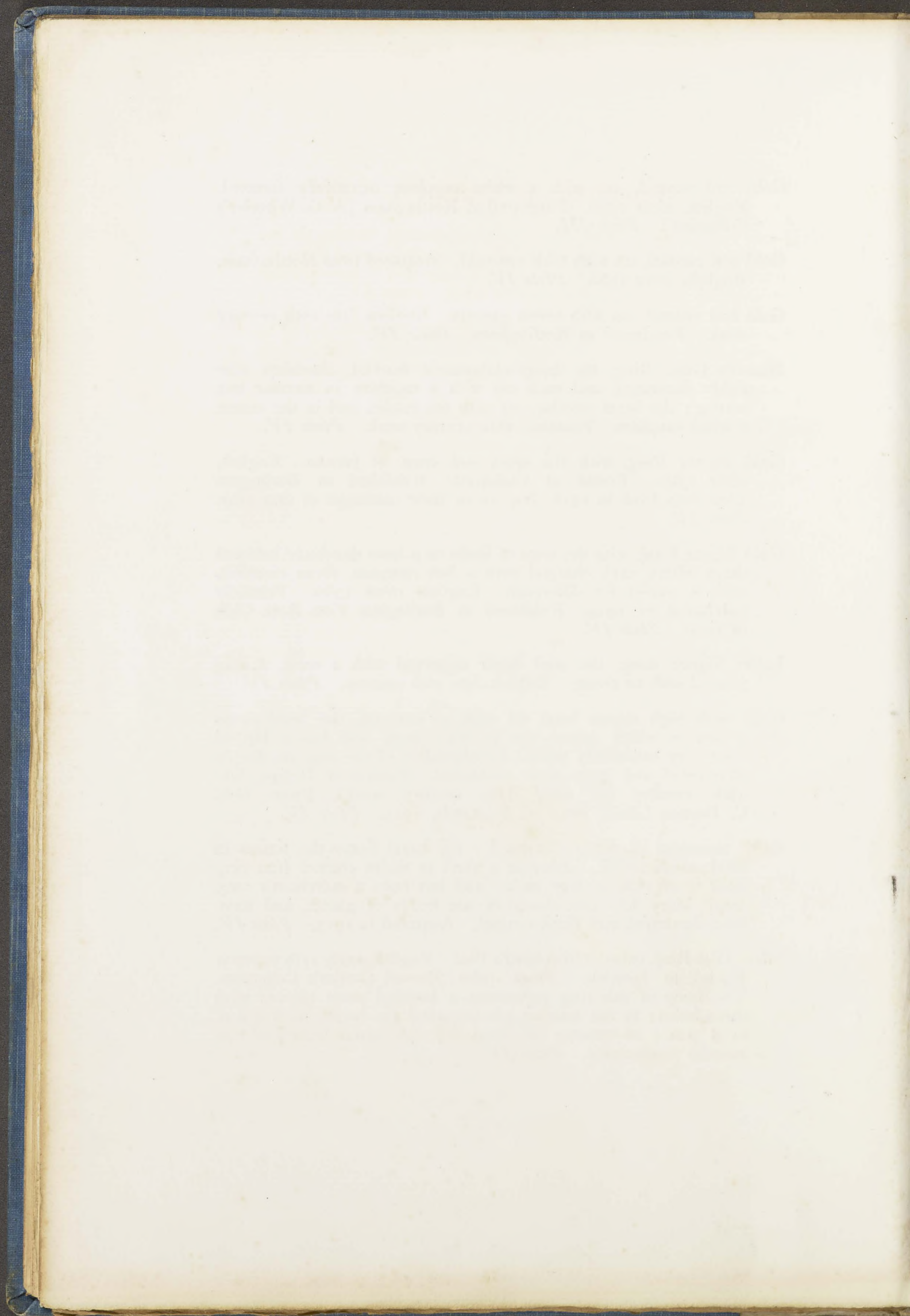
Gold Signet Ring, with the arms of Rolle on a fesse dancettée between three billets, each charged with a lion rampant, three roundels, with a mullet for difference. English, *circa* 1580. Privately purchased in 1914. Exhibited at Burlington Fine Arts Club in 1916. *Plate IV.*

Laton Signet Ring, the oval bezel engraved with a crest, a stag pierced with an arrow. English, late 16th century. *Plate IV.*

Gold, with high square bezel set with an emerald, the bezel forms a box in which poison was formerly kept, and has a hinged door very beautifully made; the shoulders of the ring are deeply channelled and have been enamelled. French or Italian, late 16th century (or early 17th century work). From Mrs. C. Denton-Leach, Bury St. Edmunds, 1915. *Plate IV.*

Gold, memorial of King Charles I.; the bezel bears the letters in black enamel C.R., above is a skull in white enamel (the ring itself is of 16th century make, and has been a merchant's ring, *temp.* Mary I.); the shoulders are heads of giants, and have been decorated with black enamel. Acquired in 1915. *Plate IV.*

Silver Dial Ring, called a Shepherd's Dial. English, early 17th century. Found at Ipswich. From John Shewell Corder's Collection. The hoop of this ring represents a buckled strap pierced with three holes; in the interior are engraved the hours, from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m.; in exterior of hoop are the initial letters of the months respectively. *Plate IV.*



Seventeenth Century.

Gold and enamelled, set with three Indian diamonds, bearing on one shoulder, in dark-blue enamel, the date 1659, and on the other the word (in Hebrew), Jehovah. A fine example of a Commonwealth, ornamental gem ring. Acquired in 1914. *Plate IV.*

Gold and enamelled, set with small brilliants, the bezel formed of an applied gold and enamelled skull and cross-bones; the shank is channelled and set with brilliants, *circa* 1660, English work. Acquired in 1913. *Plate IV.*

Gold, the shoulders enamelled and set each with a small diamond; the bezel is oval, and contains an antique carved onyx (Roman), on which is cut a male and female in chariot drawn by Amorini; the bezel formed as a box is hinged, and contains a sponge beneath a second pierced lid for the purpose of a strong unguent, probably used as a plague preventative (English, *circa* 1666). Formerly the property of Sir Francis Laking, Bt., and given to the writer by his son, Sir Guy Francis Laking, Bt., in 1916. *Plate IV.*

Gold, shoulders once enamelled, each set with a rose diamond, the box of each enamelled; the bezel oval, set with a faceted rock crystal, beneath which is a monogram in gold wire, around the same is hair. English, *circa* 1680. *Plate IV.*

Gold, the shank channelled and once enamelled, the bezel set with a garnet and two pastes. Found at Aldburgh, Suffolk. Acquired in 1913. English, last quarter of the 17th century. *Plate IV.*

Base Metal Ring, shoulders decorated with pastes set in form of triangle; the bezel circular, set with a moonstone, which is faceted. Italian, late 17th century. Acquired in 1915. *Plate IV.*

Gold and enamel memorial, the bezel circular, set with a rock crystal, under which, in enamel, are two skeletons holding a crown above a gold wire monogram, J. R., beneath which is a lock of iron-grey hair. This ring was given to an ancestor of the owner, Harman Murray, in 1701, and contains hair of King James II. English, late 17th century. *Plate IV.*

Brass Ring, massive shank, oblong bezel, roughly engraved with shield of arms; above is M. A. Acquired in 1915, late 17th century. A tradesman's ring. *Plate V.*

Geographical Commentary

The first part of the work is devoted to a general description of the geographical features of the country, and to a history of the various tribes and nations which inhabit it.

The second part is devoted to a description of the various rivers and lakes of the country, and to a history of the various tribes and nations which inhabit them.

The third part is devoted to a description of the various mountains and hills of the country, and to a history of the various tribes and nations which inhabit them.

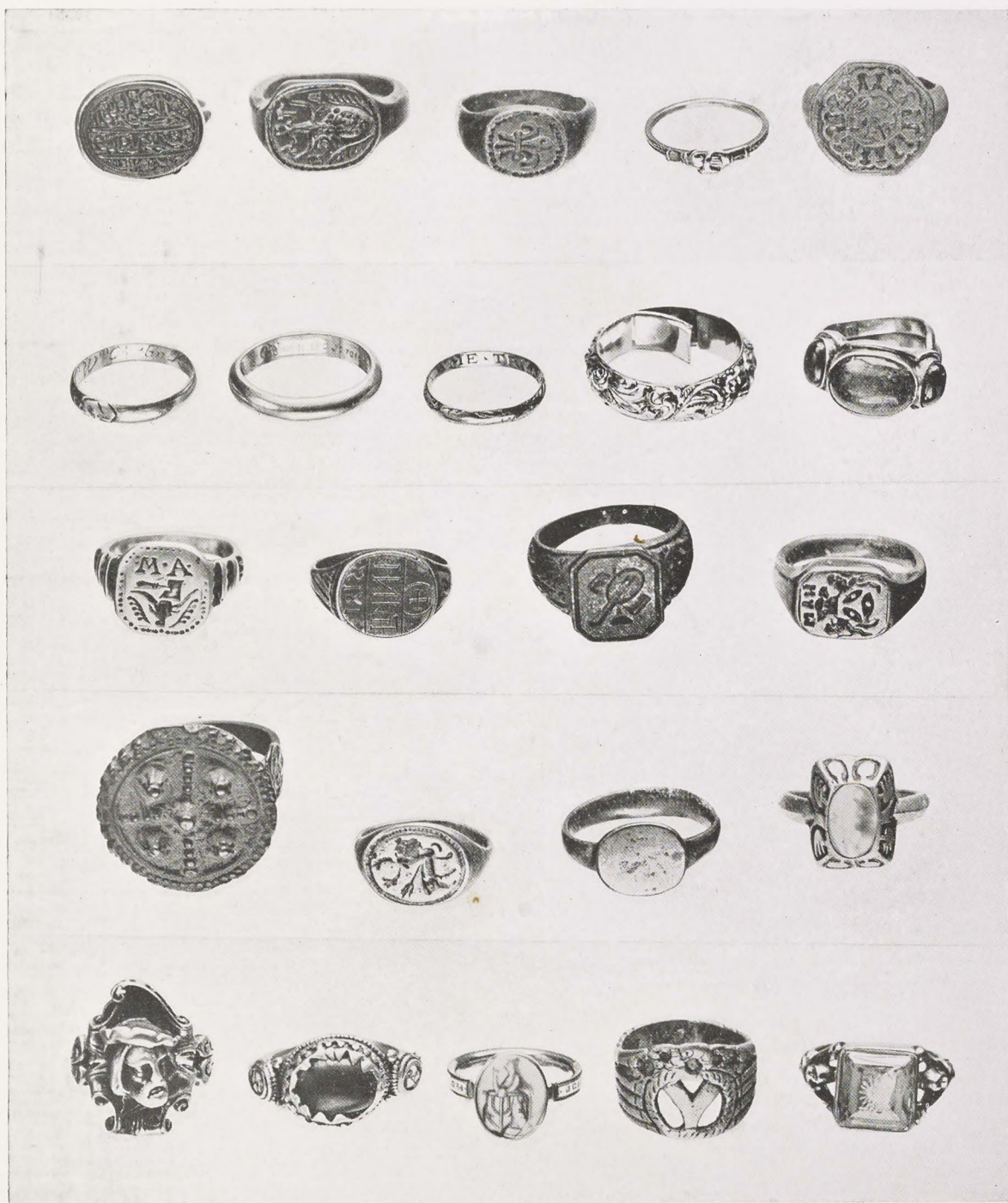
The fourth part is devoted to a description of the various plains and valleys of the country, and to a history of the various tribes and nations which inhabit them.

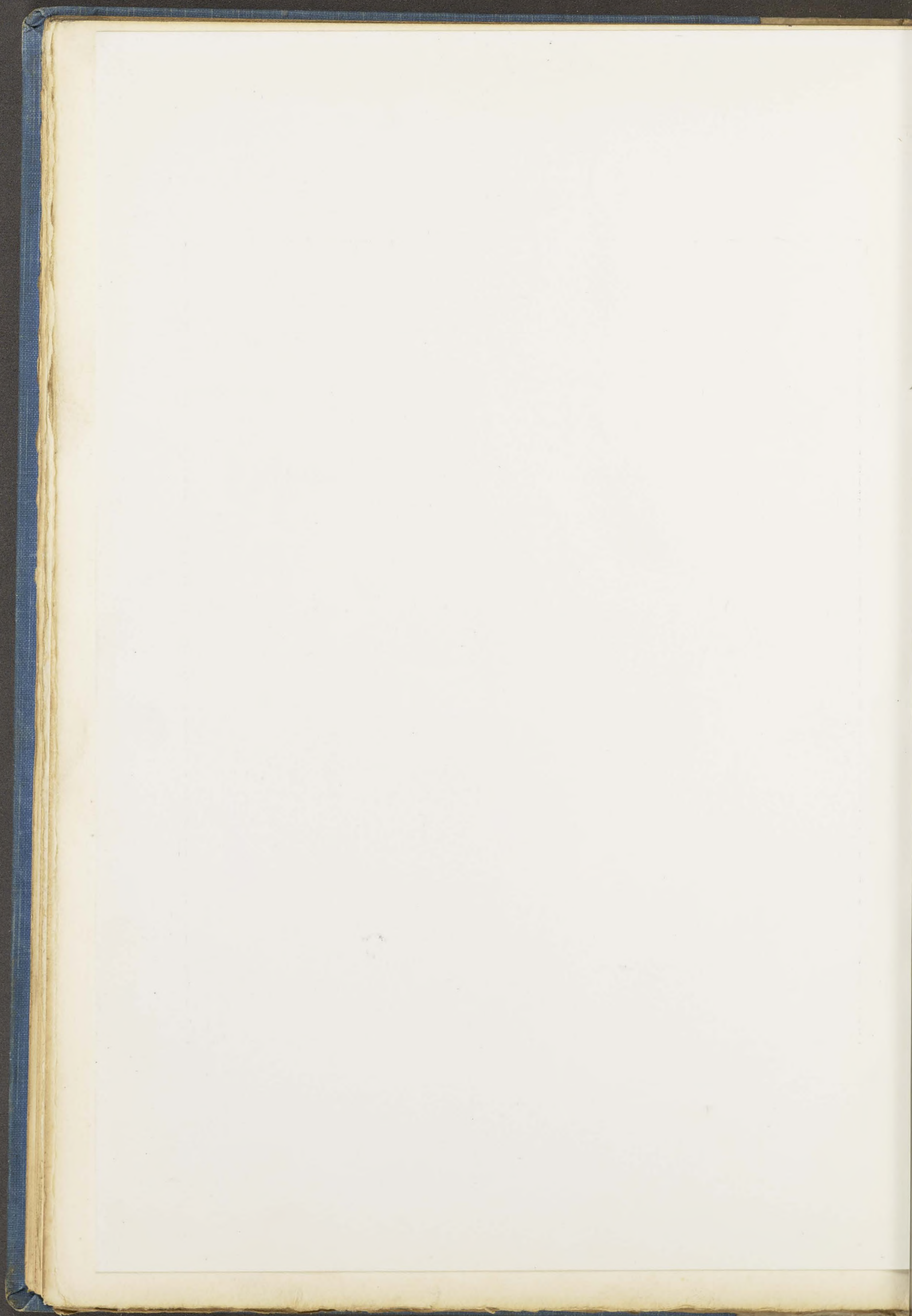
The fifth part is devoted to a description of the various coasts and harbours of the country, and to a history of the various tribes and nations which inhabit them.

The sixth part is devoted to a description of the various islands and islets of the country, and to a history of the various tribes and nations which inhabit them.

The seventh part is devoted to a description of the various rocks and reefs of the country, and to a history of the various tribes and nations which inhabit them.

PLATE V.





Gold and Silver, the shank silver, the bezel oval (gold), set with a carnelian, engraved with Persian characters. 17th century. Acquired from Constantinople in 1915. *Plate V.*

Gold, plain shank, the bezel formed as a shell, formerly enamelled, contains a miniature on ivory of a lady (*circa* 1670). From Sir Francis Laking's Collection, and given to the writer by Sir Guy Francis Laking, Bt., in 1915. *Plate IV.*

Bronze, bezel oval, on which is engraved a crest and arms, probably once gilt. English, 17th century. Acquired in 1914. *Plate V.*

Bronze, the bezel oval, on which is engraved a fleur-de-lis. English, 17th century. Acquired in 1914. *Plate V.*

Gold triple Ring, bezel, clasped hands; the hoop opens on a hinge by unclasping the hands. Late 17th century, or early 18th century "fede" ring. Acquired in 1911. *Plate V.*

Gold, wedding or betrothal Ring (male's), inscribed within hoop, "As God decreed so we agreed March 8, 1735." Found in South Kensington in 1911. Acquired in 1911. *Plate V.*

Gold, used for transmitting private political messages; the ring contains a secret box, hinged, for holding cypher papers. Early 18th century, probably Italian, possibly a Jacobite ring. The hoop decorated in high relief with flowers. Acquired in 1913. *Plate V.*

Gold, memorial, plain hoop, front decorated with engraved skull; inside the hoop is engraved, "Sir Wlm. Gostling Knt. obt. 19 July (16)98." Found in the River Thames at Wallingford, Berkshire. From W. R. Davies' Collection 1889. *Plate V.*

Gold Posey Ring, inscribed within hoop, "Let time try my troth." 18th century. Acquired in 1887. *Plate V.*

Silver, once entirely gilt, the shank formed as a serpent, the bezel divided into three oval boxes in which is set, the centre with pink, and the other two sides with green jade. Chinese work, 18th century. Acquired in 1914. *Plate V.*

Brass, hoop of triangular section with a lozenge in relief at the back, and on each shoulder a shield-shaped panel; octagonal bezel with an inscription in Arabic within a circular foliated border (*mediæval*). From Constantinople. Collection of Captain H. W. Murray. *Plate V.*

Base silver, once gilt, plain hoop, decorated shoulders; oval bezel, on which is an inscription (?) Russian. 18th century work. Acquired from the Crimea in 1911. *Plate V.*

Base metal (brass), plain hoop, applied bezel; quite plain. Found at Ipswich in 1897 (18th century). Purchased of a builder [F. Grimwood]. *Plate V.*

Iron, with applied octagonal bezel, on which is engraved musical instruments; the hoop is plain with ornamented shoulders. This ring has been formerly gilt. Italian or German, 17th century. Acquired in 1915. *Plate V.*

Massive brass, set with oblong bezel, on which are engraved arms and M A H. 17th century. Acquired in 1916. *Plate V.*

Silver, gilt, plain hoop, no shoulders; high oblong bezel, set with mother of pearl. Italian, 18th century. Acquired in 1916. *Plate V.*

Massive silver (this was probably a butcher's); the hoop is plain, with decorated shoulders; the bezel, nearly square, is engraved with a cleaver and a bull's head with initials M A above. English, 18th century. Found at Norwich. Acquired in 1915. *Plate V.*

Bronze, incised hoop, decorated and once probably coloured; circular decorated shoulders; applied circular bezel decorated with cross and five pellets (wounds of Christ). Eastern Europe peasant's ring, *circa* 1700. Acquired in 1911. *Plate V.*

Silver, with wide hoop decorated with strap work and pellets in pearl form, formed of two hands which supports a crowned Y. Neapolitan or Spanish, 18th century peasant's betrothal ring. Acquired in 1912. *Plate V.*

Gold and enamel Memorial Ring, the hoop channelled and inscribed "John Badcock Dd. 23rd. July 1781, aged 34"; the oval bezel applied and inset is a miniature of a female figure kneeling, in front an anchor. English, 18th century work. Acquired in 1916. *Plate V.*

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BY JOHN BURNET

IN TWO VOLUMES. THE SECOND VOLUME.
LONDON, Printed by J. Streater, at the Sign of the
Gun, in St. Dunstons Church-yard, 1680.

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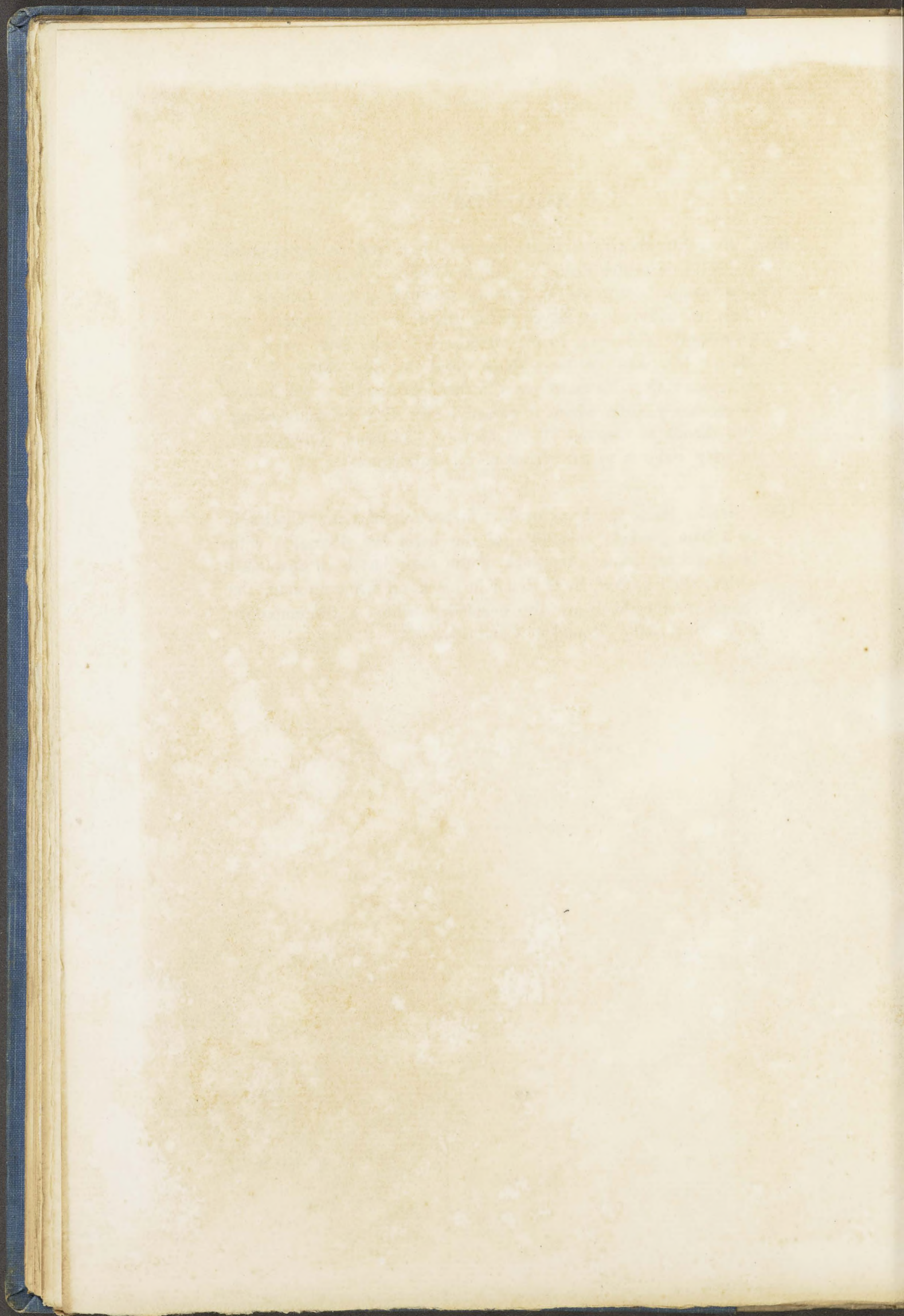
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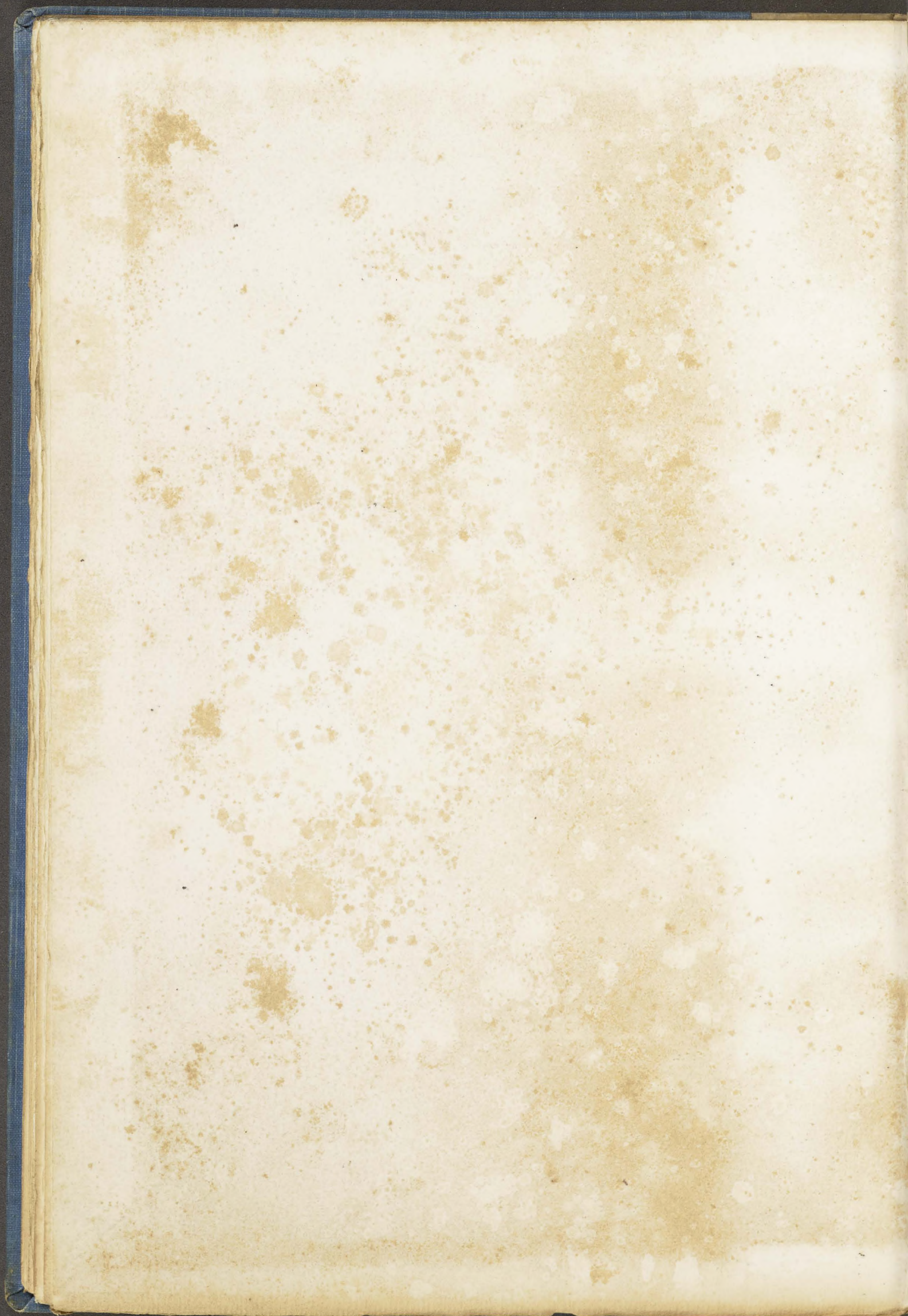
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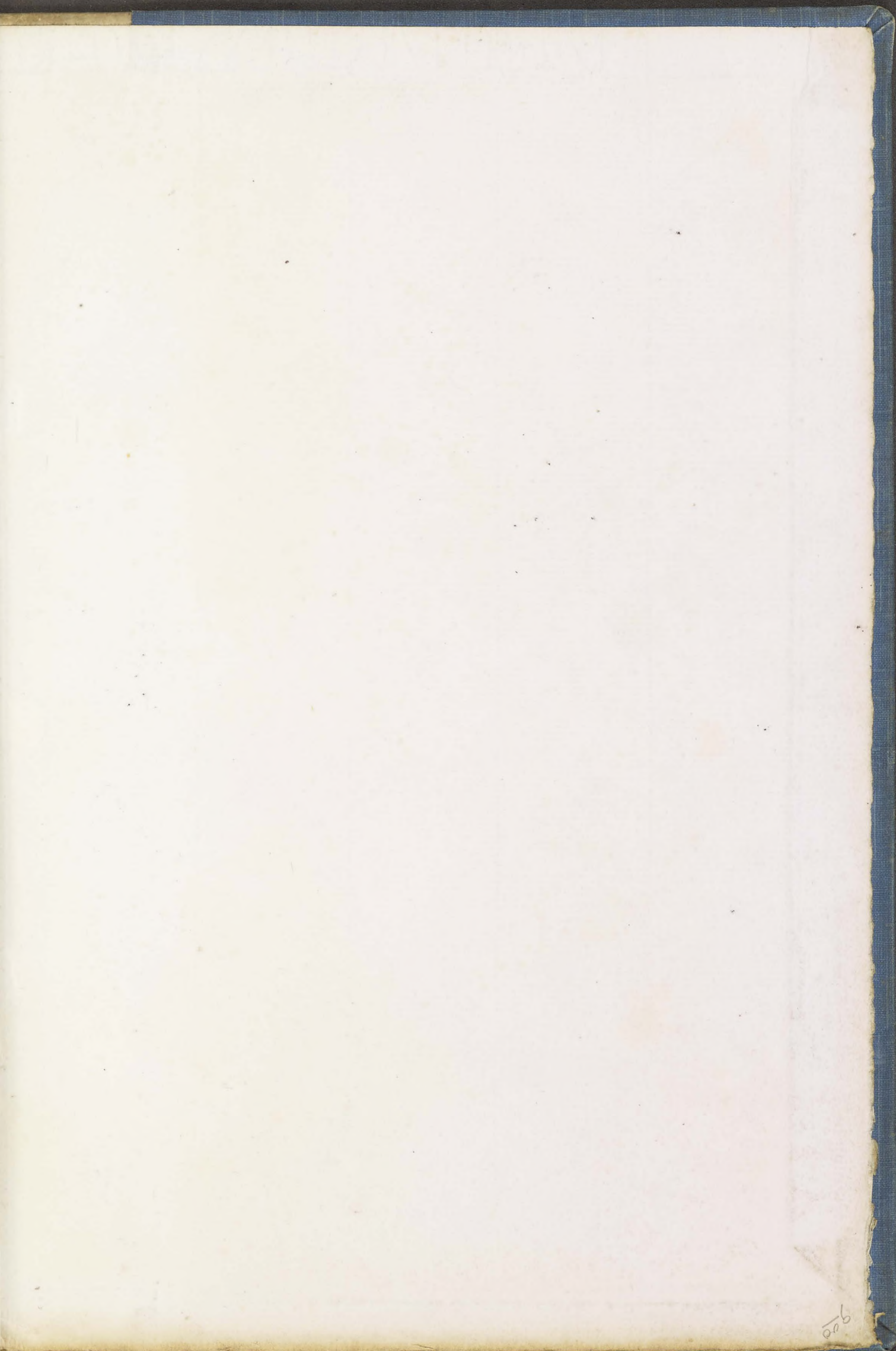
ADDENDA.

Ring, silver-gilt, *circa* 1480-1500; the bezel is ridged, on upper panel is INRI, in centre Rob  Gib and below IHC, the shoulders and shank decorated with lozenged-shaped ornaments. This is believed to have been given by King James IV. (Scotland) 1488-1514, to his servitor Gib, who had saved the King's life, and to have been used by the latter as his marriage ring. For many years in the Collection of a well-known Scots family, from whom it passed to Sir Guy Francis Laking, Bt., thence to Captain H. W. Murray of Epsom, Surrey, who, in 1917, gave it to the writer of this catalogue.

Gold, slender hoop, the bezel oval, with portrait of King Charles I. on a blue ground; the sides of the bezel are decorated with black and red enamel, the back of the same has been enamelled with a skull flanked by C R, all in black on white ground, the shoulders and shank are also enamelled white; a contemporary ring, *circa* 1648. Found at Cambridge.







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